

By: Kolkhorst

S.B. No. 801

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the development of an agriculture education program for public elementary schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter 7, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.926 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.926. AGRICULTURE EDUCATION PROGRAM. (a) The agency shall develop an agriculture education program for elementary school students to encourage appreciation and improve students' understanding of agriculture. In developing the program, the agency shall coordinate with:

(1) the Department of Agriculture; and

(2) nonprofit organizations with expertise in agriculture education, as identified by the agency.

(b) The agency shall develop a list of agriculture education programs approved by the agency and the State Board of Education that may be used as part of the curriculum for elementary school students. A program included on the list must be available to an elementary school at no cost to the school district or open-enrollment charter school.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.